

ALL persons indebted to me by note or account, are requested to call upon W. T. Herndon, who is my attorney in fact, and alone authorized to collect and receive the same.

Oct. 28, 1845—681—17

M. R. STEALEY.

All interested in the foregoing notice are requested call at once and settle and pay up.—The same being transferred. No indulgence can be given.

W. T. HERNDON.

The public are hereby notified, that from the first of next September we will be prepared to furnish every variety of Barrels, Kegs, &c., at the lowest cash prices.

delivered at his Warehouse.  
 St. 1, 1846-725-by. L. LINDSEY.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.  
January 1, 1947

Next door to the Bank of Louisville,  
October 13, 1846—731-1f      Louisville, Kentucky.



# THE DAILY COMMONWEALTH.

FRANKFORT, FRIDAY, JAN. 8, 1847.

## KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE.

### IN SENATE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1847.

The Senate was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Norton, of Episcopal Church.

Mr. McNARY, Senator elect from the counties of Ohio, Muhlenburg and Butler, appeared and took the oath of office, administered by H. Wingate, Esq.

Petitions were presented by the following Senators, viz: Messrs. James, Crenshaw, Slaughter, McNary and Bristow.

Mr. WALKER, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, reported a bill from H. R. for the benefit of Nancy Cox, changing her name to Nancy Davis; passed.

Also, a bill from H. R., for the benefit of Isabella Morton, changing her name to Isabella Russell; passed.

Also, a bill from H. R., to change the names of Wm. Coffield and Richard M. Womack to Wm. and Richard M. Ford; passed.

Also, a bill from H. R., to change the name of James P. Conklin to that of J. P. Hagin; passed.

Also, a bill to authorize the Trustees of Parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in town of Elkton, to sell said Parsonage; passed.

Also, a bill from H. R., to change the name of Polixar McDaniell to that of Polixar Hall; passed.

Mr. J. SPEED SMITH, from the Committee on Internal Improvement, reported a bill from H. R., authorizing the use of surplus water power at dam No. 3, on Green river, on certain conditions; passed.

The SPEAKER laid before the Senate the annual Report of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, which was ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on the Sinking Fund.

On motion of Mr. EVANS, the following resolution was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of passing a law authorizing Circuit Court Judges to change the names of persons desiring such change, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Leave was given to bring in the following bills, viz:

Mr. TODD, a bill concerning conveyances of property made in trust; referred.

Mr. PEYTON, a bill to authorize the Board of Internal Improvement to compromise and settle with S. Stout; referred.

Mr. BRAMLETTE, a bill to incorporate Clinton County Souinry; referred.

Also, a bill to amend an act concerning the town of Albany; referred.

Mr. SVOPE, a bill for the benefit of Wm. Rowlett, of Owen county; referred.

Mr. EVANS, a bill to amend the election laws of this State; referred.

Mr. HAWKINS moved to take up the resolution appointing a day to go into the election of U. S. Senator, which motion was negatived, by a vote of 18 to 17.

### Orders of the Day.

The Convention bill coming up as the special order of the day, the Senate resolved itself into committee of the whole, Mr. RICE in the chair, and entered upon the consideration of the said bill.

Mr. HARRIS offered a substitute for the original bill, the most important section of which is as follows, viz:

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Commissioners of Tax to open a column in their Commissioners' books, and enroll therein the name of each citizen entitled to vote for Representatives for the year 1847; and they shall be governed, in all cases in ascertaining who is entitled to vote, by the laws now in force to prevent illegal voting, and this column, written in a fair and legible hand, shall be transmitted with the Commissioner's books, to the 2d Auditor, who shall make out a copy thereof and deposit the same in the office of the Secretary for the time being, who shall transmit the same to the next Legislature as a list of those who are entitled to vote for Representatives, in order that the Legislature may have the means to ascertain whether a majority of the citizens of the State entitled to vote for Representatives have voted for a Convention.

Mr. PEYTON offered an amendment, providing for the appointment of Commissioners by the County Courts to take a census of all the legal voters in the State, commencing in July.

Mr. PEYTON, wished to provide some means, by which all who should be entitled to vote in August next, should be enumerated, and it was with this view, he proposed the amendment, believing that it would effect the object better than would the plan proposed in the substitute offered by the Senator from Floyd. Under the latter, all who arrive at the age of 21, all who have temporarily left the State, and all who remove into the county, in the interval between the time of the Commissioners taking in their lists and the August election, will be lost in the enumeration of the legal voters of the State.

Mr. HARRIS, objected to the amendment of the Senator from Breckinridge; that it involved an unnecessary expense, with which he was unwilling to burden the State. He asked no undue advantage for the friends of a convention. The plan proposed in his substitute, offered a fair test, by which the whole vote of the State could be ascertained. He deemed it entirely useless to be so particular in this matter. The popular vote on this question will not be of a character to require any very exact enumeration of the whole number of the legal voters of the State, in order to ascertain whether a majority of them have voted for a convention. The majority for a convention will be overwhelming, whenever the question is submitted to the people.

Mr. BUTLER, was satisfied that all the Senators were aiming at the same object, but differed in opinion as to the proper means by which the common purpose was to be secured. He was somewhat more advanced in years than the Senator from Floyd, and had lost much of that ardent feeling, with which in his younger days, he was wont to support any proposition that captivated his fancy. He attributed to this feeling the prophetic declaration of his friend from Floyd, that the convention measure would find in the country such a tremendous majority in its favor. He feared that the popular vote on the question might be closer than was imagined. At all events, it was the part of wisdom to provide against a result, which might involve consequences, the frightful detail of which, he would not detain the Senate to enumerate.

Mr. HELM, thought that greater care was manifested in the preparation of this bill, than in any convention bill he had ever seen. The Commissioner's books had been relied on heretofore, as furnishing the only data, from which to ascertain the number of legal voters in the State. The bill under consideration, imposed additional duties on the Commissioners of Tax. They are to ascertain, and report all who will be entitled to vote for representatives in 1847; not only to report, all who are entitled to vote at the time of taking in the lists, but to make all necessary inquiries to enable them to determine who will be legal voters in August next. The expense attending the plan proposed by the

Senator from Breckinridge, made it objectionable. The county courts would in all probability, in almost every case, select the same individuals to perform this duty, who had served as Tax Commissioners, as by the time provided in the amendment proposed, for them to commence their labors, they would have finished their tax lists; and thus, an additional sum of 4 or 5000 dollars must be paid them for this service. He was anxious to have this business done fairly; was willing and desirous that those who were absent fighting the battles of their country, should have a voice in the matter. Many of those however who have left the State, have died, and many more will probably settle elsewhere and never return; these certainly should not be enumerated, so as to be considered against a convention.

Mr. PEYTON withdrew his amendment, and offered the following in lieu of it:

Insert after the word 1847, in the 7th section of the substitute—"That said Commissioners ascertain the number of persons absent in the service of this State or of the U. States, who are entitled to vote in the respective counties of this State, and report the same, in the same manner that persons who may be in the State are required to be reported."

Mr. BOYD was desirous, whatever might be his own views on the question, to satisfy the friends of a convention in the arrangement of this bill. He could not approve the amendment proposed by the Senator from Breckinridge. It would be improper for the Commissioners to include in their enumeration, the names of absent voters. During their absence, they could not vote, and should not, therefore, be reported as voters, to be counted against a Convention.

Mr. PEYTON—The Constitution does not contemplate a vote between those who vote for, and those who vote against a Convention, but merely provides, that a poll shall be opened for those who vote for a Convention, and declares that all others shall be counted against it. Two facts are to be ascertained by the next Legislature, 1st. The whole number of legal voters in the State; 2d. The proportion of this number who have voted for a Convention. The Legislature is left free to adopt the best mode for ascertaining the former. Who are entitled to vote? The argument of the Senator from Fleming amounts to this—a man may have a right to vote, but it is not in a condition to exercise that right, then, he has no right. This would be indeed the more mockery of right. Can it be said that the existence of a right depends upon the ability at any moment to exercise it? By no means. Those of our citizens who have volunteered in defense of their country, still retain their rights of citizenship, and any effort to disfranchise them, is an outrage, which should not be tolerated. The amendment does not provide for counting dead men's votes, but merely guards the rights of our fellow-citizens who are now periling their lives in the cause of their country. He was not wedded to his own proposition; his object was to perfect the bill, so far as he was able. If the next Legislature should believe that proper steps have not been taken to ascertain the true number of legal voters in the State, then the whole of this proceeding will be vain, and worse than vain.

Mr. BOYD—The Senator from Breckinridge misunderstood him in intimating that a poll must be opened both for, and against a Convention. He had not said so. He contended for the correctness of his former proposition. What constitutes the right to vote? Age, residence and personal presence. The last is as essential as either of the first two. A man can not vote by proxy. A volunteer in the Mexican army, cannot, by power of attorney, however well authenticated, authorize A. B. to vote in his name for a Convention. There is no impropriety in excluding these soldiers from the enumeration. The law does not disfranchise them. They by their own voluntary act, have suspended the exercise of this right. He participated in the universal admiration felt for the bravery and patriotism of these citizen soldiers, who had left their families and friends, to encounter the perils and hardships of the campaign, but there were other rights to be guarded, as well as those of the soldiers. He would ask the honorable Senator, and others, were not the rights of the cattle drover, who might be absent from the State, to be protected equally with those of the soldier, or any others? He considered this a matter of importance, as it would to some extent affect the question of a majority for the Convention. These men cannot vote during their absence. Should they then be reported as voters, and be counted against a Convention, when they cannot exercise the right of voting?

Mr. HEADY thought it would not be fair to count all of those who were absent, as against a Convention, without knowing how they would vote if they were at home. A fair inference would be, that there were the same proportion for and against a Convention among those who were absent, as among the voters at home. He believed that two-thirds of the volunteers were for a change in the Constitution. They were a band of gallant spirits, and whether Whigs or Democrats, they were all republicans. The bill itself goes further than is necessary, and gives advantage to the anti-conventionists. He should vote against the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER—It is not for the Senate to determine whether this, or that regulation, would operate as a hardship upon this, or that party, or would give any advantage to either. The object of inquiry should be, what does the constitution require? Under the constitution all legal voters in the State have a right to a voice in this question. Who then are legal voters? It is not necessary that a man should remain every hour of his existence in the State, in order to retain his rights of citizenship. The argument, that because a man cannot, or does not exercise a right, his right is forfeited, is extremely fallacious. If in the State, and not at the polls, the place designated by law for voting—you cannot vote, but you certainly have the right to vote. Does the fact then that a man is absent, fighting for his country's honor and his country's interests, disfranchise him? God forbid that such a doctrine should be established here. He had voted for a convention, might do so again—there are defects in the Constitution which he would gladly see corrected. One question out of the way, he would vote now for a convention. It was due to both parties, that the bill should be framed in accordance with the Constitution.

Mr. HARDIN, did not think the question who are legal voters a debatable question. The Constitution settles that matter. He desired to give the opponents of a convention every advantage in framing this bill, that when the question should come up for final settlement, there should be no danger of the frightful scenes portrayed by the Senator from Jefferson. He was in favor of including absent soldiers in the enumeration; justice as well as a regard to the Constitution require it. Has been opposed to a convention until within the past two years, but believes the time has come when the public good imperiously demands it.

Mr. CRENSHAW—All desire to frame a bill which shall be fair as between the parties, and at the same time be consistent with the requirements of the Constitution; would not commit himself decidedly upon one side or the other, but was favorably disposed to a convention. He was vehemently opposed to the doctrine that a temporary absence from the State, for any cause, deprived a man of a voice in this question. If such were the case, and one half of the citizens were called to the service of their country, a small minority of the whole people of the State might take advantage of their absence, and revolutionize the Government, such a thing was preposterous.

Mr. HELM—Under the bill, the commissioners are required to report all legal voters, and all who are but temporarily absent, are legal voters, and of course included in the bill. Through abundant caution however, and to have the soldiers expressly provided for in the bill, he would vote for the amendment.

The amendment of Mr. Peyton, as also an amendment proposed by Mr. Helm, providing for an oath to be administered to the commissioners were adopted, and then the substitute proposed by Mr. Harris, for the original bill, as thus amended, was adopted.

The committee then rose, and reported the bill to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, the amendment proposed by Mr. Peyton, and adopted in committee of the whole, was stricken out.

Mr. TAYLOR proposed to insert in lieu thereof, the following, viz:

"And the Commissioners, in taking said list, shall include in said list, the names of all such qualified voters who may be absent from the State at the time of taking the said list, either in the army or otherwise."

The yeas and nays being demanded upon this motion, resulted as follows, viz:

YEAS—Messrs. Bradley, Bramlette, Crenshaw, Fox, Helm, Henderson, Holloway, Key, McNary, Peyton, Rice, Russell, Slaughter, Taylor, Todd and Walker—15.

NAYS—Messrs. Ballard, Boyd, Brien, Bristow, Butler, Draffin, Evans, Hardin, Harris, Hawkins, Heady, James, Marshall, McNary, Rice, J. Speed, Smith, South, Swope, Thomas, Thornton, Thurman, Wall and Williams—23.

Mr. BUTLER offered the following amendment, viz:

Insert after the word 1847, in the 7th section of the bill, the following:—"Including those who may be absent engaged in the service of their country, or absent from any other cause."

The yeas and nays being demanded were as follows, viz:

YEAS—Messrs. Bradley, Butler, Draffin, Fox, Helm, Henderson, Holloway, Key, McNary, Peyton, Rice, Russell, Slaughter, J. Speed, Smith, Taylor, Thurman, Todd and Walker—18.

NAYS—Messrs. Ballard, Boyd, Bramlette, Brien, Bristow, Crenshaw, Evans, Hardin, Harris, Hawkins, Heady, James, Marshall, Patterson, South, Swope, Thomas, Thornton, Wall and Williams—20.

The bill was then put upon its final passage, and the yeas and nays being demanded, were as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Ballard, Boyd, Bradley, Bramlette, Brien, Bristow, Crenshaw, Draffin, Evans, Fox, Hardin, Harris, Hawkins, Heady, Helm, James, Marshall, McNary, Patterson, Rice, Russell, J. Speed, Smith, South, Swope, Taylor, Thomas, Thornton, Thurman, Wall and Williams—30.

NAYS—Messrs. Butler, Henderson, Holloway, Key, Peyton, Slaughter, Todd and Walker—8.

The SPEAKER laid before the Senate, the report of the Trustees of the Cumberland Hospital; referred.

Also, the annual report of the Keepers of the Penitentiary, which was referred to the Committee on the Penitentiary, and 500 copies ordered to be printed.

On motion, the Senate adjourned.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. WATERMAN.

After the reading of the journal, petitions were presented by Messrs. Hay, A. G. Botts, Covington, Crawford, Marshall and Spurr, which were referred to appropriate committees.

Mr. PROCTOR offered a resolution requesting the committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the state of the public arms in the arsenal; adopted.

Leave was granted Mr. WORTHAM to bring in a bill in relation to guardians; referred.

To Mr. MORTON—a bill to change a name; referred.

To Mr. WRIGHT—a bill to amend the fifth section of an act establishing a railway in the town of Hickman; referred.

To Mr. COBB—a bill to change the road law in Knox county; referred.

To Mr. DESHA—a bill to amend the laws in relation to patrols; referred.

To Mr. HOBBS—a bill to amend the law of patrols so far as concerns Jefferson county; referred.

Also—a bill relative to the acknowledgment of deeds by *feces covert*; referred.

To Mr. PAGE—two bills to amend acts for the benefit of individuals, named; referred.

To Mr. PEARL—a bill to amend and repeal in part, an act establishing a road; referred.

Also—a bill concerning equity jurisdiction before justices of the peace; referred.

Also—a bill to amend the law in relation to the murder and concealment of bastard children by their mothers; referred to the Judiciary Committee.

To Mr. RHEA—a bill to change the name of Jas. M. Garner; referred.

To Mr. HAY—a bill to branch the Court of Appeals, and locate one branch south of Green river; referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also—to incorporate the trustees of Pleasant Hope Church; referred.

To Mr. D. IRVINE—a bill to incorporate an additional Fire Company in Frankfort; referred.

Also—a bill for the benefit of the jailers of Madison and Anderson counties; referred.

To Mr. GRAVES—a bill for the benefit of Peter Blair, sen.; referred.

To Mr. HAY—a bill to branch the Court of Appeals, and locate one branch south of Green river; referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also—to incorporate the trustees of Pleasant Hope Church; referred.

To Mr. D. IRVINE—a bill to incorporate an additional Fire Company in Frankfort; referred.

Also—a bill for the benefit of the jailers of Madison and Anderson counties; referred.

To Mr. GRAVES—a bill for the benefit of Peter Blair, sen.; referred.

To Mr. OGLESBY—a bill to compel the trustees of the town of Tompkinsville to keep the streets in order; referred.

To Mr. WALLER—a bill to amend the charter of a turnpike company; referred to the committee on Internal Improvement.

Also—a bill for the benefit of the Maysville guards; referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

To Mr. A. G. BOTTS—a bill better to protect the estates of deceased persons; referred.

To Mr. ARMSTRONG—a bill to amend the hebeas corpus law; referred.

To Mr. WHEELER—a bill for the benefit of an individual named; referred.

To Mr. DICKERSON—a bill to incorporate the Georgetown and Paris road company; referred.

Also—a bill to change the name of Mrs. Pamela Redmond; referred.

To Mr. ENGLISH—a bill for the benefit of Thomas H. Woolfolk; referred.

To Mr. GLENN—a bill to amend the execution laws; referred.

To Mr. SPALDING—a bill for the benefit of the late sheriff of Union county; referred.

To Mr. JONES—a bill to give full power to the circuit courts to grant all sorts and kinds of divorces; referred.

To Mr. WILLIAMS—a bill prohibiting the emancipation of slaves, unless security is given that they shall not become a public charge; referred.

Also—a bill respecting the liability of the estates of deceased persons; referred.

To Mr. COVINGTON—a bill for the benefit of John Mitchell and others; referred.

Also—a bill to amend an act regulating the duties of trustees of the town of Bowling Green; referred.

Also—a bill authorizing William Smith to import certain slaves into this commonwealth.

The Committee on Enrollments reported the enrollment of the joint resolution for firing a salute upon the eighth day of January.

A message was received from the Senate announcing the passage of sundry resolutions and bills.

Mr. MAYHALL offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee of four members of this House be selected by ballot or otherwise, to visit the Lunatic Asylum at Lexington, and the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Danville, and report to this House. The resolution was copiously discussed by Messrs. Mayhall, Hobbs, Glenn and Haggard, and was amended when,

Mr. DESHA offered as a substitute,

Resolved, That the joint committee on Banks be directed to examine into the condition of the Lunatic Asylum and report. The yeas and nays being called, the vote stood on the substitute, yeas 34, nays 29; adopted.

Mr. HOBBS offered a joint resolution appointing the 13th inst., for the election of a United States Senator.

Mr. MERIWETHER offered the following:

Resolved, That the committee on Ways and Means be requested to inquire into the expediency of making each county support its own idiots.

Also the following:

Resolved, That Joseph Gray, sergeant at arms of this House, be permitted to avail himself of the services of his son; adopted.

Mr. PROCTOR offered the following:

Resolved, That the committee on Federal Relations inquire into the constitutional power of the President of the United States to appoint and commission officers of any grade in the volunteer militia when called into the service of the United States.

Resolved further, That said committee inquire whether in the late exercise of this power by the President of the United States, the Constitution of the United States and the rights of the States have not been encroached upon.

Mr. GRAVES offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill authorizing the circuit courts to change names and legitimize children. The resolution being amended by a substitute offered by Mr. CROCKETT, was adopted.

Mr. ARMSTRONG offered a resolution for the appointment of two additional members on the Judiciary Committee; adopted.

Also—a resolution requesting the Judiciary Committee to make certain inquiries concerning the Court of Appeals; adopted.

Also—a resolution for the appointment of a committee to revise the act of incorporation of the Lexington and Ohio rail road; rejected.

### Reports of Standing Committees.

The chairman of each of the following Committees reported as follows:

Of Propositions and Grievances, on the petition of citizens of Estill, Morgan and Clarke counties, that it ought not to be granted; concurred in.

Also—on the petition of James W. Crew, that it was improperly referred; committee discharged, and the petition referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Also—on the petition of Arthur Nash, that it ought to be rejected; concurred in.

Of Religion—against the petition of Elijah Elliott; concurred in.

Also—against the petition of James Duddy; concurred in.

Also—against the petition of Virginia E. Franklin; concurred in.

Also—against the petition of Milton Smith and wife; concurred in.

Also—against the petition of Isaac Gambrel; concurred in.

Also—against the petition of George S. Gravitt; concurred in.

Of Internal Improvement—on the petition of citizens of Kenton county—a bill to amend the act of incorporation of the Bank Lick turnpike company; read and passed.

A message was received from the Secretary of State, transmitting certain papers which were referred to a select committee.

### Reports from Select Committees.

Mr. HOBBS reported a bill for the benefit of the estate of John B. Lock, a lunatic; passed.

Mr. GRAVES reported a bill changing the place of comparing the polls of elections in the counties of Morgan and Breathitt; passed.

Mr. HANSON reported a bill to change the time of holding the terms of the court of appeals; committed to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. W. S. BOTTS reported a bill amending the act of incorporation of the town of Fleningsburg; passed.

Mr. MUNFORD reported a bill to regulate the tare on sugar barrels; which on motion of Mr. GLENN being amended, was passed.

### The Convention Bill.

Mr. HANSON, from the Select committee to whom was referred the Convention Bill and amendments, reported a substitute.

Mr. DESHA moved an amendment, which was discussed by himself and Messrs. Williams and Reed.

Mr. WRIGHT moved the previous question, which being carried, the vote was taken upon the amendment proposed by Mr. Desha, which was rejected.

The question being upon the substitute of the committee in place of the original bill; it was adopted.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed, and motion was made by Mr. STEVENSON to put it upon its final passage, when

Mr. REED arose and addressed the House in opposition to the bill.

He had no expectation that any thing which he would say would influence the House in its final decision. There was a disposition manifested by the friends of the bill, to press it to its final consummation, which was entirely inconsistent with that grave solemnity, which should characterize the deliberations of this body. Confessing a deep reverence for the existing constitution, he did not like to see it hurried to its grave with such indecent haste. It was due to the country, that the defenders of the constitution, should have an opportunity of giving to it the reasons for their adherence to it. It was due to those who were charged with hostility to the people, to give their reasons also, for their action. It was evident that any other question results in throwing out false inferences before the country. It was said that this people of Kentucky have the privilege of saying, whether they will go into a convention or not! There were considerations of a higher character involved.

The object of the parties who support this measure does not seem to be the same. One class considers it a question of privilege, and are willing to accord it. To deny it, they think, would be to deny the sovereignty of the people, from whom all laws proceed; who have the power to make and unmake constitutions at their pleasure. This view leads us into grand mistakes. Another sub-division of the same party, while they are opposed to altering the constitution, are not willing to withhold from the people the privilege of expressing their opinions upon it. While these false opinions and false inferences are going before the country, it is the duty

of those who hold a different opinion to express it. Mr. R. said he was of the number of those who did not believe it sound policy to go into convention.—The constitution, (God bless it!) was good enough as it stood, without submitting it to the dangerous experiment of revision or alteration. While he acknowledged the capability of the people for self-government, he went against the main question—he went against the privilege. The question had not been distinctly before the people; they had not demanded a change; many of us upon this floor did not know the sentiments of our constituents upon the question. It would be singular to grant what had not been asked—to give the people a privilege of expressing their dissent to what they had not asked. If opposed to a convention, they did not wish an opportunity to say so. Mr. R. adverted to the history of the present constitution, and the one which preceded it. The original one, after it had been in operation for seven years, was revised; was any thing gained by it? He challenged any one to show more than two lines of the present constitution, which were preferable to the old one; except in the mode of election of Senators and Governor, the new was no improvement on the old. He reviewed the various votes in the Legislature upon the convention question, and inferred therefrom the state and progress of public opinion demanding a convention.

The history of the U. S. Constitution was a good illustration of the desire for change. For the first few years after its adoption, it was violently assailed and was several times amended, but for a long series of years, since the people have become acquainted with and learned its value, it has not been altered.

We were called upon for a change of constitutions. It was an age of change; roads were exchanged for railways, boats for steamers. Every thing must be subjected to steam pressure. We are called upon for a change, but were not told what changes are desired. One says one thing, another says something else. There is no understanding, no common ground among the friends and advocates of change. Here a paragraph was quoted from the Convention organ, illustrating this position. In his social intercourse with some advocates of a Convention, he had gained some idea of some of the changes desired.

These were alluded to severally. The changes in the Judiciary might all be reached by legislation. The Speaker passed an eloquent eulogy upon the present system and its efficiency in administering justice between man and man.

It was desired by some of the friends of change to bring about a gradual emancipation of slaves. He deprecated any interference with this institution, and vindicated the people of Kentucky from the charge of being inferior in







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